

*Proviso.*  
Death compensa-  
tion.

Local payments of  
initial compensation.

Application to  
Puerto Rican citi-  
zens.

any class or classes of such noncitizen employees, who sustain injury outside of the United States: *Provided*, That the Commission may in its discretion establish a minimum monthly pay on which death compensation shall be computed in the case of any class or classes of such noncitizen employees. The Commission is further authorized, in its discretion, to arrange and provide for the making of initial payments of compensation and the initial furnishing of other benefits provided in this Act in the cases of employees injured outside of the United States, by any officer or agent of the United States designated by the Commission for such purpose in the locality in which the employee was employed or the injury occurred. The provisions of this paragraph shall apply also in the cases of citizens of Puerto Rico, except those citizens of the United States who by residence have acquired or shall acquire citizenship in Puerto Rico under the provisions of section 733 (a) of title 48, United States Code."

Approved, July 29, 1942.

[CHAPTER 534]

AN ACT

To grant a preference right to certain oil and gas lessees.

July 29, 1942  
[H. R. 6071]

[Public Law 686]

Oil and gas leases.  
Preference right to  
record title holder.

30 U. S. C. §§ 223,  
223a, 226, 236a.  
41 Stat. 437.

41 Stat. 443.  
30 U. S. C. § 226.

Lands excluded.

Settlement of ac-  
crued rental claims.

41 Stat. 441.  
30 U. S. C. § 221  
note.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That upon the expiration of the five-year term of any noncompetitive oil and gas lease issued pursuant to the provisions of the Act of August 21, 1935 (49 Stat. 674), amending the Act of February 25, 1920, and maintained in accordance with the applicable statutory requirements and regulations, the record title holder shall be entitled to a preference right over others to a new lease for the same land pursuant to the provisions of section 17 of the Act of February 25, 1920, as amended, and under such rules and regulations as are then in force, if he shall file an application therefor within ninety days prior to the date of the expiration of the lease. The preference right herein granted shall not apply to lands which on the date of the expiration of a lease are within the known geologic structure of a producing oil or gas field.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to make a compromise settlement of any claim for accrued rental under a lease issued pursuant to the provisions of section 13 of such Act of February 25, 1920, as amended, in any case in which he determines that it would be financially beneficial to the United States to make such a compromise settlement or in any case in which he determines that collection of the full amount of such accrued rental from the lessee is inadvisable because of the lessee's financial resources being limited.

Approved, July 29, 1942.

[CHAPTER 536]

AN ACT

To amend the Canal Zone Code.

July 29, 1942  
[H. R. 7188]

[Public Law 687]

Canal Zone Code,  
amendments.

Automatic retire-  
ment.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the second paragraph of section 92 of title 2 of the Canal Zone Code, approved June 19, 1934, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"On and after July 1, 1932, no employee to whom this article applies who shall have reached the retirement age prescribed for automatic separation from the service, shall be continued in such

service, notwithstanding any provision of law or regulation to the contrary: *Provided*, That the President may, by Executive order, exempt from the provisions of this paragraph any person when, in his judgment, the public interest so requires: *Provided further*, That no person separated from the service who is receiving an annuity under the provisions of this section or section 93 of this title shall be eligible again to appointment to any appointive office, position, or employment to which this article applies, or under the United States or of the government of the District of Columbia unless the appointing authority determines that he is possessed of special qualifications, in which event payment of his annuity shall be terminated during the period of his appointment; and any such person whose annuity is terminated, shall, upon the termination of his appointment, have his subsequent annuity rights determined under the provisions of this article in effect at the time of such termination: *Provided further*, That this paragraph shall not apply to any person named in any Act of Congress providing for the continuance of such person in the service."

SEC. 2. That section 95 of title 2, Canal Zone Code, is hereby repealed, and in lieu thereof the following is substituted:

"SEC. 95. ANNUITY ON SEPARATION FROM SERVICE BEFORE BECOMING ELIGIBLE FOR RETIREMENT.—(a) Should any employee to whom this article applies, after having served for a total period of not less than five years and before becoming eligible for retirement become separated from the service, such employee shall be paid a deferred annuity beginning at the age of sixty-two years, computed as provided in the first paragraph of section 96 of this title: *Provided*, That any such person involuntarily separated from the service not by removal for cause on charges of misconduct or delinquency may elect to receive an immediate annuity beginning at the age of fifty-five or at the date of separation from the service if subsequent to that age having a value equal to the present worth of a deferred annuity beginning at the age of sixty-two years, or at age of separation if subsequent to age sixty-two, computed as provided in section 96 of this title: *Provided further*, That nothing in this article shall be so construed as to prohibit the refund of deductions, deposits, or redeposits made prior to the effective date of this Act with interest thereon, or of any voluntary contributions made under the provisions of section 99 of this title, as amended, with interest: *And provided further*, That all moneys, except voluntary contributions, so refunded an employee must be redeposited with interest before such employee may derive any annuity benefits based on the service covered by the refund.

"(b) Should an annuitant under the provisions of this section be reemployed in a position included in the provisions of this article, the annuity and any right to an immediate or deferred annuity as provided herein shall cease as of the date of such employment. If such annuitant is reemployed in any position in the service of the United States or the District of Columbia, not within the provisions of this article, annuity payments shall be discontinued during the period of such employment, and resumed in the same amount upon termination of such employment.

"(c) Interest shall be allowed on the amount credited to such separated employee's individual account in the retirement fund at 3 per centum compounded on June 30 of each year until the beginning date of annuity."

SEC. 3. That the second paragraph of section 96 of title 2, Canal Zone Code, is amended by striking out the colon after the words "in computing the annuity under paragraph (3) hereof, and divided by

*Provisos.*  
Exemptions.

Reappointment of annuitants.

Subsequent annuity rights.

Exception.

Deferred annuity at age 62.

*Provisos.*  
Election of immediate annuity.

Refunds.

Redeposit of refunds.

Effect of reemployment.

Interest.

Minimum annuity.

forty", and inserting in lieu thereof a semicolon, and by inserting the following clause after the semicolon: "nor be less than an amount equal to the average annual basic salary, pay, or compensation received by the employee during any five consecutive years of allowable service at the option of the employee, multiplied by the number of years of service, not exceeding thirty-five years, and divided by seventy:".

SEC. 4. That paragraph (b) of section 101 of title 2, Canal Zone Code, is stricken out, and there is inserted in lieu thereof the following:

Refund for service  
of less than 5 years.

*Provisos.*  
Involuntary separa-  
tion.

Redeposit of deduc-  
tions upon reinstate-  
ment, etc.

"(b) In the case of any employee to whom this article applies who shall be transferred to a position not within the purview of this article, or who shall become absolutely separated from the service before he shall have completed an aggregate of five years of service computed in accordance with section 97 of this title, the amount of deductions from his basic salary, pay, or compensation credited to his individual account, together with interest at 4 per centum compounded on June 30 of each year shall be returned to such employee: *Provided*, That when an employee becomes involuntarily separated from the service, not by removal for cause on charges of misconduct or delinquency before completing five years of creditable service the total amount of deductions from his basic salary, pay, or compensation with interest at 4 per centum compounded on June 30 of each year shall be returned to such employee: *Provided further*, That all deductions from basic salary, pay, or compensation so returned to an employee must, upon reinstatement, retransfer, or reappointment to a position coming within the purview of this article, be redeposited with interest at 4 per centum compounded on June 30 of each year before such employee may derive any benefits under this article, except as provided in this section, but interest shall not be required covering any period of separation from the service."

SEC. 5. That section 102 of title 2, Canal Zone Code, is hereby amended, effective from January 1, 1940, by adding at the end thereof the following paragraph:

"Annuitant."

"The term 'annuitant' as used in this article shall include any employee who has met all requirements of the article for title and has filed claim therefor, notwithstanding final administrative action was not taken by the Civil Service Commission prior to his death. Nothing in this section shall be so construed as to reduce any benefit otherwise payable."

Separation prior to  
effective date.

SEC. 6. Except as may be otherwise specifically provided herein, nothing in this Act shall be so construed as to affect any rights of persons separated prior to the effective date of this Act, but all such rights shall continue and may be enforced in the same manner as though this Act had not been made.

SEC. 7. This Act shall take effect upon approval, except as otherwise provided herein.

Approved, July 29, 1942.

#### [CHAPTER 537]

#### AN ACT

July 30, 1942  
[S. 2330]  
[Public Law 688]

To enable the United States Commission for the Celebration of the Two-hundredth Anniversary of the Birth of Thomas Jefferson to carry out and give effect to certain approved plans.

Thomas Jefferson  
Bicentennial Com-  
mission.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the United States Commission for the Celebration of the Two-hundredth Anniversary of the Birth of Thomas Jefferson, established by the joint